

the HIV virus in the region, which has about 10% of the world's population but more than 70% of the worldwide total of infected people. I applaud the efforts of my colleagues who have worked tirelessly to the awareness of the members of this body of the conditions in Africa.

Since the onset of HIV/AIDS in 1981, we here in Congress, have attempted to address the issue. Not knowing of the complications and aggression of HIV/AIDS, in FY81 the Department of Health and Human Services received \$200,000 in discretionary funding for HIV/AIDS. Today, Health and Human Services receives close to \$5 billion for HIV/AIDS programs, and the overall federal government spends close to \$12 billion on programs for HIV/AIDS research, education, and prevention. This funding allows agencies such as the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to support programs for state and local prevention activities. Programs sponsored by the CDC also include: a national public information network; education programs in the nation's schools; disease monitoring; and laboratory; behavioral, epidemiologic studies designed to identify the most effective interventions to combat HIV. Federal funding has also helped in the development of drugs has also helped in the development to drugs such as AZT and others, which allow infected individuals to enjoy a longer and healthier life. The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has conducted crucial research in the development of treatments and vaccines for HIV/AIDS. The HIV/AIDS Minority Initiative provides funding for prevention and treatment in minority communities. The Global Health Initiative supports activities around the world focused on HIV/AIDS programs. The Ricky Ray Hemophilia Relief Fund provides compassionate payments to individuals with blood clotting disorders, who contracted HIV due to contaminated blood transfusions. These programs not only effect social consciousness, but also reflect our nation's increased dedication and commitment to eradicating HIV/AIDS.

In 1990, Congress passed the Ryan White Comprehensive Resources Emergency (CARE) Act. I am proud to say that here in this sometimes divisive body, we were able to come together and vote unanimously for the reauthorization of the Act in 2000, thereby assisting metropolitan areas and states with their health care costs and support services for individuals and families affected by HIV/AIDS. This legislation is vital to helping those who are most affected by this disease and who often do not have the means to combat this disease. Shortly after we passed the Ryan White CARE Act, I received a letter from a former student of mine who has been living with AIDS. In her touching letter, my former student applauded our efforts here in Congress, "I am very pleased that we have seen an increase in funding for the Ryan White CARE Act to help those living with this horrible disease and all of their families too. Now, hopefully with all the funds we can care for a lot of people and try to keep them as well as possible * * *."

Mr. Speaker, we cannot jeopardize the well being of those living with HIV/AIDS and must ensure that funding for HIV/AIDS is retained. I commend the gentlewoman from California,

Mrs. PELOSI, and the gentleman from Illinois, Mr. SHIMKUS, whom I have joined in sending a letter to encourage President Bush to increase funding for the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS (HOPWA) programs. The letter also encourages President Bush to support funding for disease prevention, the Ryan White CARE Act to improve health care for people with AIDS, and the Minority HIV/AIDS Initiative. With rates of infection on the up swing and so concentrated, we cannot let these programs lag; the risk is too high.

It is paramount that we persevere in our efforts against HIV/AIDS. As we begin our third decade battling this disease, I maintain that we focus our energies on those who are most vulnerable to infections: women, minorities, and children. We must also redouble our efforts to educate our citizens, especially our youth, on how to protect themselves from HIV infection. In addition, we must not ignore our humanitarian duty to those suffering around the world. The strides we have made in the past two decades are numerous; and we should celebrate our victories. However, we cannot overlook the individuals who are unable to fight this disease alone. I ask my colleagues, on this the 20th anniversary of the AIDS/HIV, to remember the past and stand in solidarity to renew our nation's commitment to this global crisis.

TRIBUTE TO RUTH VELOZO

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, a remarkable individual is planning to retire next month after 34 years of dedicated service to the hungry and the homeless in my District. Ruth Velozo, executive director of Northwest Harvest, a statewide food program, is stepping down at the age of 72. Ms. Velozo began working for Northwest Harvest in 1967 and became executive director in 1980. As a result of her guidance and hard work, the agency grew from an ecumenical ministry with a debt of \$35,000 to a \$20 million dollar a year charity.

Last year, Northwest Harvest collected and distributed 16.5 million pounds of food to the poor and the hungry. Northwest Harvest has four distribution centers in the state through which food is donated to 283 hunger programs.

Mr. Speaker, Ruth Velozo grew up during the Great Depression. She learned the devastation of poverty and hunger. Through America's prosperous upswings and economic downturns, she never abandoned her determination to help those who are left out. She has dedicated her life not only to feeding people, but to furthering her core values: maintaining the dignity of the poor, and an unwavering belief in the basic generosity of people.

Ms. Velozo has said that in a perfect world, she would step down because there is no longer a need for Northwest Harvest's services. But sadly, more than 30,000 people ask

for food at the main branch in Seattle each month, and Washington State ranks eighth amongst the states in those who suffer from hunger. The need would be much larger, however, had it not been for Ruth Velozo and her work. I hope you will join me, Mr. Speaker, in thanking her for her energy, for her leadership, and for her commitment.

A TRIBUTE TO RABBI GERALD RAISKIN

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great pleasure to honor Rabbi Gerald Raiskin, who is celebrating 50 years in the Rabbinate and 45 years as Rabbi of Peninsula Temple Shalom.

Rabbi Raiskin's life of service began in New York's lower East Side where he attended Seward Park High School, Hertziah Hebrew High School and Brooklyn College. His exemplary dedication to duty was evident from the early age of 18, when Gerald Raiskin answered his country's call and enlisted in the United States Army. He soon earned the rank of Private First Class and served with distinction in the 80th Infantry Division of the United States Army. Gerald Raiskin was awarded the Combat Infantry Badge and two Battle Stars for heroic combat duty, which included the capture of Hitler's Austrian birthplace and engagement in hostilities at the outskirts of the Buchenwald Concentration Camp, where the young soldier observed the bodies of inmates who were killed in the nearby woods as he marched towards the camp. When the war in Europe ended, Rabbi Raiskin's outstanding academic record afforded him the opportunity to attend the University of Geneva, where he studied art and political science before returning home to Brooklyn.

Gerald Raiskin's path to the rabbinate began in earnest with his commitment to Reform Judaism and enrollment in the Jewish Institute of Religion's Rabbinical School in 1948. He was both an illustrious and industrious student who served as a student rabbi in several congregations while writing a thesis and preparing for written and oral examinations for the Master of Hebrew Literature Degree. On weekends, then student rabbi Raiskin tended both a reluctant furnace and a willing new congregation in East Hartford, Connecticut. On the High Holy Days he was assigned to conduct Conservative services in Lake Hopatcong, New Jersey, a bungalow community where Rabbi Raiskin served as rabbi, cantor, torah reader and blew the shofar. In addition, he organized a religious school in Merrick, Long Island, and taught Hebrew to children in Trenton, New Jersey and was awarded two academic prizes before his ordination in June, 1951.

Mr. Speaker, after his ordination Rabbi Raiskin traveled to the new state of Israel, where he lived in Jerusalem and continued his religious studies at the Hebrew University. When heavy rains in December of 1951 devastated the encampments of immigrants from

North Africa and Romania, Rabbi Raiskin was sent to Afula, where he aided and eased the suffering by providing clothing that had been sent by Jewish organizations from the United States.

Rabbi Raiskin returned from Israel in 1952 to work for the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (UAHC) as the Director of the Chicago Federation of Temple Youth. He also served as the Director of the Union's Institute which was the first camp owned by the UAHC in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin (now known as the Olin-Sang-Ruby Camp). In 1953, just in time for High Holy Days, Rabbi Raiskin joined the Stephen Wise Free Synagogue where he started a senior citizens group, increased attendance at the young adult groups, and strengthened the religious school.

The yearning for a congregation of his own was answered in 1956 when Rabbi Raiskin received an early morning telephone call asking him to consider becoming the spiritual leader of the Peninsula Temple Sholom. On August 1, 1956 Peninsula Temple Sholom's first rabbi arrived in San Mateo to begin 45 years of humanitarian work that has extended well beyond the walls of the temple.

Mr. Speaker, Rabbi Gerald Raiskin today is recognized as one of the great leaders of San Mateo County. He built the congregation of Peninsula Temple Sholom from very humble beginnings to a congregation of over 700 families, while constantly working to advance civil rights at home and abroad. In March of 1965 Rabbi Raiskin participated in the Civil Rights March to Montgomery with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Rabbi Raiskin was arrested on several occasions for protesting in front of the Soviet Consulate in San Francisco on behalf of Jews in the Soviet Union. He risked his own safety to bring humanitarian aid in the form of medical supplies and books on Judaica to refugees in Kiev, Leningrad and Moscow. Here at home, Rabbi Raiskin has been integral to interfaith efforts that have greatly benefitted the 12th Congressional District which I am privileged to serve.

Rabbi Raiskin has aptly been described as "a role model, a true community leader, an incredible teacher and an all around mensch." He is a loving husband to Helen, a devoted father to Sherman, Rhonda, Judith and Jordana and a doting grandfather to Marni, Jamie, Dana, Marcy, Jeremy and Eli. His spiritual leadership has brought joy, peace and comfort to generations of Peninsula Temple Sholom members.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Rabbi Raiskin on fifty years of service in the rabbinate, commending his half-century of humanitarian and public service and wishing him and his family many more years of richly deserved good health and happiness.

JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION OF FREEDOM

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Cleveland's Juneteenth Celebra-

tion of Freedom to be held June 23-24 at the Martin Luther King Civic Center.

Juneteenth, the oldest known celebration of the ending of slavery, began on June 19, 1865 when the last known group of slaves learned of their freedom. The purpose of Juneteenth is not only to relive a painful chapter in history, but to revive and preserve African American heritage. Juneteenth reminds all Americans to keep open the lines of communication by all people.

We gather to celebrate and emphasize the true meaning of freedom, to embrace human rights and to come together as one people without regard to race, national origin, class, religion, or any walk of life. This year's annual observance will bring all Americans together to promote racial healing and provide inspiration to all.

Juneteenth supporters have already planned countless marches, a kick-off session, talent shows, workshops, children's activities, and other events as part of the two-day celebration. Much planning has gone into creating a celebration to uplift the human spirit through rap, reggae music, dance, games, poetry, and more.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in celebration and recognition of Cleveland's Juneteenth Celebration. It is time for Americans of all colors, creeds, cultures, and religions to share a common love of and respect for freedom.

CENTRAL NEW JERSEY RECOGNIZES SAM GOLDBERG FOR HIS ONGOING CONTRIBUTIONS TO HIS COMMUNITY

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I wish to recognize today Mr. Sam Goldberg for his continued demonstration of the strong sense of civic duty that characterizes the true spirit of American citizenship. Sam, the newly named Person of the Year by the Homeowners of Covered Bridge has, through his membership in a number of local organizations, distinguished himself as a pillar of the community of Covered Bridge, Manalapan Township.

Sam began his life in the Bronx as the eldest of three children. After his graduation from Morris High, Sam briefly attended City College. In 1951, he left college to join the Army. After being discharged from the armed forces in 1953, Sam married his current wife, Esther, a Brooklyn native. The couple settled in Brooklyn, where they raised two daughters and where Sam went on to a career in the U.S. Post Office's payroll division. In 1988, after he retired from the USPS, Sam began a brief stint in the Brooklyn District Attorney's payroll office. Throughout his career, Mr. Goldberg remained active in civic organizations, including the Knights of Pythias, and the Concerned Citizens of Canarsie.

After moving to Covered Bridge, Sam continued his long-time association with the Knights of Pythias. He also volunteered with a number of local associations, including SCAT,

Deborah, and the Jewish War Veterans. In addition to serving as the First Vice-President of the Homeowners of Covered Bridge, Sam sings with the Covered Bridge Chorale and volunteers at both the Lyons Veterans Hospital and CentraState Hospital.

Sam Goldberg's life has truly been one of dedicated community service. I applaud Sam's continued efforts and ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing his many accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE LEAMON KING

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, It is with great sadness that I note the passing of Leamon King, of California.

A lifelong educator in the Richgrove and Delano Elementary School Districts, Olympic Gold Medalist, World Record Holder in the 100 yard dash and Delano High School graduate, Leamon provided a positive role model for the local youth. He made significant contributions to the improvement of education opportunities for Latino Children in California.

Leamon was born on February 13, 1936 in Tulare, California. His parents were Loyd King and Beatrice Wallace King. They owned a farm in Earlimart, and Leamon lived there the first year of his life. His father, Loyd King, sold their farm in 1937, and the King family moved to Delano, California where Leamon completed his elementary and secondary education.

Leamon began his education at Ellington School and later transferred to Fremont School. His mother wanted him to learn music and to play the saxophone. The only elementary school in Delano with a band at that time was Cecil Avenue Elementary School, so he transferred to this school. While attending Cecil Avenue and learning music, Leamon began to excel in track as a sprinter, and was ultimately elected student body president.

Upon graduation from Cecil Avenue, Leamon transferred to Delano High School. He attended and won his first state meet at the age of fifteen during his freshman year in high school. During the next four years, Leamon King continued to excel as both a student and as a runner. This outstanding athlete provided a positive image for Delano High School and the City of Delano, as well as being a positive role model for students to emulate.

Following graduation from Delano High School in June 1954, Leamon began to pursue higher education at University of California, Berkeley. He was the first child in his family to pursue a college education. The April 10, 1956 Delano Record stated, "DELANO SPRINTER READY FOR OLYMPICS. Sophomore Leamon King, Delano High School graduate, a young man with wings on his feet, is California's newest hope for 'World's Fastest Human' honors, and the Bear sprint sensation will have ample opportunity to earn such acclaim this spring." The following month